

NORTH STAFFS. LEAGUE.

Fenton Still in Fine Form.

Last Saturday morning found cricketers and cricket followers hereabouts afflicted with a severe attack of the dumps, for rain was threatening the prevention of any participation of the national summer pastime, and the workmen's precious heritage of a weekly half-holiday seemed once more likely to be of no benefit as concerns outside recreation. Fortunately, the arch-enemy of cricket was compassionately disposed, and weather conditions mended so much that there was no actual interference with the various games with the exception of the one at Stone, which came to a premature close some 35 minutes before schedule time. This stoppage probably robbed Stone of a point, for the four Longton wickets that remained to be captured were not regarded as possessing much staying power. The match at Leek also resulted in a draw, for the last Crewe pair were not parted, though the Highfielders tried all their wiles, and the excitement was quite disturbing. Leek maintained their good form by a substantial victory over Norton, and Sedgwick's doings gained him further eclat.

Porthill were too strong for Tunstall, and their success was of about equal measure to the corresponding victory of last season. The members of the Tunstall team seem to lack cohesion, and no League side plays a losing game quite so badly. Opposing bowlers are often flattered by the facility with which the men get themselves out. Not to speak paradoxically, the team is short of both dash and discretion. These remarks are not those of a carping critic, but one cannot help thinking that Tunstall players fail in their duty to themselves. The team should be value for better things.

On a dangerous wicket, Silverdale were at the mercy of Burslem's express bowlers, and the latter easily got two points from a club who they always meet with a certain amount of trepidation. Having met Stoke, Fenton have now encountered all their competitors—they have played Silverdale twice—and no side has been able to take them down. Whether they will be quite so successful in the return games is doubtful, but a lead of six points will take some overhauling. Most of their victories have been gained with great ease, and only at Cobridge have they been seen to disadvantage, though against Leek, on the opening day of the season they were none too well fixed when the match was abandoned.

In the Second Division, the struggle of the leading quartette is quite a good one, and the ultimate winner can only be guessed at. With Crewe Alexandra and Knypersley disengaged, Oldfields were able to draw level with the former, and Fenton's gain of two points from Stoke caused them to pass the team led by R. S. Harding.

Porthill had a runaway success at the expense of Tunstall, and Burslem provided Silverdale with their first win. There was no element of surprise about that, but there certainly was as regards Chell's triumph over Norton, who look like having to deliver up the shield when September comes round. Last year one of Stoke's half-dozen wins was gained from Fenton, out they had no such consolation from their latest meeting, for the unbeaten band smote them hip and thigh. The men whose home is at the County Ground had a sorry experience of their Fenton rivals, one that suggests a ready paraphrase of the words: "Widows of Ashur are loud in their wail, and idols are broke in the temple of Baal."

Leek's visit to Norton was associated with an uncommonly good dual performance on the part of Herbert Sedgwick, who is rapidly justifying the excellent credentials he earned whilst with Littleborough. To bowl throughout an innings which realised 109 runs and only be punished to the extent of 28 notches is a sufficient indication of capital work, but to capture nine wickets for so small a tally was a feat of outstanding merit. Six of his victims were clean bowled, and the Norton innings was a very in-and-out affair in more respects than one. Sedgwick again asserted himself in batting, and his partnership with W. Cartrell won the match. The latter batted finely, and for Norton Mee, by characteristic play, had 43 not out, and so had some compensation for recent ill-fortune.

Playing one of their strongest games, Porthill quite outclassed Tunstall, eight of whose players could only realise 21 runs amongst them. Barnes and W. G. Greatorex were chiefly responsible for this collapse, for each got four wickets, and whilst the professional's cost seven runs each the amateur only expended three runs more. Porthill had previously had good scorers in Barnes (55)—un-

fortunately run out when he looked like repeating previous big scores against Tunstall—R. Mawdesley (58), and Wilfred Greatorex (37). The last-named also took two catches, and is proving decidedly useful to the Champions, who might do worse than give him a first turn with the ball, seeing that Harry Eardley has fallen away from his form of previous seasons.

On a wicket that was too pronouncedly on the sporting side, Burslem outplayed Silverdale at all points. Albert Hollowood (83 not out) was in a class by himself as regards batting, but J. Hodgkiss (35) and Deyes (25) were responsible for more than Silverdale's aggregate, and H. Williamson (17) assisted Hollowood in a significant first-wicket stand which realised 64 chalks. Clegh Goodall (16) was Silverdale's only dual figure scorer, which is strong testimony of the excellence of Burslem's bowling, and the high standard of their fielding. Albert Cook had five wickets for 26 runs, and Deyes four for a run less. Goodall, with five for 31, did most execution for Silverdale, and it seemed that more use might have been made of him, especially as nine overs bowled by Frank Ellams were trounced for 53 runs.

With the conditions as they were, there was a strong feeling that Stoke would be able to administer a first defeat to Fenton, but the leaders carried too many guns and ran out winners of a fine, sporting game. Still, one cannot get away from the idea that having got rid of Fenton for the score they did, Stoke should have made a bigger bid for victory. From this outlook the opinion is feasible that S. Collis won the match for his side with the exquisite catch by which he disposed of Percy Briggs, who is fittingly recognised as Stoke's sheet anchor. Harry Eagland (28) batted finely for the winners, and, though his score was not a big one, he has rarely played a more important innings, and it was unfortunate that the proceedings should have been marred by an injury that caused his retirement from the field.

Longton had to face Stone without William Brown, whose sickness is generally regretted, and it was fortunate for them that Alfred Smith was in such capital all-round form. Apart from Smith Longton were weak, but the vice-captain did fine work by taking six wickets for 44, and playing a not out innings of 30. For Stone, Anthony (51) and H. Price (46) had a partnership that accounted for 38 of the total. Both batted extremely well, though the professional should have been out after getting a single. P. H. Woodcock captured five Longton wickets for seven runs each.

With Moorhouse failing, Crewe Alexandra's attack against Highfield was of poor quality, and whilst five of the home side reached doubles, there were no complete failures. M. Walker (29), Moorhouse (27), and Frank White (23) scored well for Crewe, and the last-named did good service by the way he went for the bowling. It was left to the Alexandra's last pair, H. Hughes and F. Cross, to save the game. They managed it, but the latter should have been caught by Spencer, though the chance was not easy by reason of the fielder being so close in.

SANDYFORD.

TWO MORE CONQUESTS.

The maximum number of points were secured again on Saturday by both the teams, and this made the fourth successive win for the first team. Hall Green were the visitors at Sandyford, and they returned with a deficiency of 115 runs. The home eleven were again without E. Baker, G. Baker and S. Holmes opening the attack against S. Edwards and J. Higgins. Although G. Baker was so unfortunate as to have 16 runs recorded against him in the first over, he took five wickets for 35. L. Dean bowled splendidly, and had four wickets for six runs. The chief cause of the dismissal of the visitors was the smart fielding of the home eleven, some of the catches being cleverly taken, and only one extra was recorded, and this a no-ball. The innings realised 61.

Sandyford appeared to have little difficulty in knocking off the necessary runs, as the third wicket did not fall until 90 had been signalled. The innings was completed when 175 had been scored. Towards this splendid score A. D. Staton contributed 42, L. Dean 40, S. Holmes 34, and J. Beech 18.

The second eleven were also in excellent form at Leyceet. The latter were dismissed for 41. J. Moss was chiefly responsible for their rapid dismissal, as he captured seven wickets for the small cost of 12. Sandyford replied with 67, J. Austin being the highest scorer with 20, and Moss proved his ability with the bat with 11 (not out).

BURSLEM.

Hard Hitting by Hollowood.

(“By Google.”)

Nothing has given the Burslem supporters greater pleasure than the return to his best form of Albert Hollowood, who last Saturday followed up his 89 against Fenton, at Cobridge, with 83 (not out) when opposing Silverdale at the mining village. His batting average now reaches just under 50 per innings, now augurs well for his well-doing in the County matches just commencing. Everyone hopes he will not look back, especially as this is his “benefit” year.

Undoubtedly he is the most attractive batsman to watch in North Staffordshire, and the Silverdale crowd showed their appreciation of his powers in no half-hearted manner, even though he was making their favourites' bowling look very feeble. It is no mean performance to go in first and to be still unbeaten when 181 runs have been recorded. He seemed to demoralise the Silverdale bowling with his rich repertoire of strokes. His cunning deflections to leg were truly artistic, and not an ounce of his energy was wasted.

The Burslem venture, however, was a bit lop-sided, for Hollowood got real partners only in his vice-captain, J. Hodgkiss (35), Deyes (25), and Williamson (17). The other six players who batted between them only got eight. In reply to this formidable score, the home eleven started badly, early losing Ellams and Cooper, both being victims of A. Cook. Hamner got a single, and then was cleverly sent to the pavilion by a smart piece of work behind the stumps by Griffiths. This certainly looked as though they were crumpling up tamely, having three of their best bats out for 17. Still, they struggled heroically with odds all against them.

Cadman, when eight, was electrified by a delivery from Deyes. Wy. ne, caught by Cook off Deyes, retired without scoring, but Goodall withstood the best until 16, when he put the ball to Hart, who made no error. Ford fortunately made one, and Groom was lucky to annex six. Sutton never saw the ball from Deyes that bowled him for a “duck.” Ward struggled heroically for five, when Booth put him up a tier which he played nicely to Richardson, who held it. Rushton was not out with five to his name, and thus Burslem won—well, just as they liked. Silverdale's total was seven over the half-century. The fielding on both sides left nothing to be desired. A. Cook counted five wickets to himself for a small total, and Deyes captured four wickets also at little cost. Silverdale, at home, are hard nuts to crack, but Burslem got to the kernel in no half-hearted humour, and won handsomely.

They are setting an excellent lead to the second eleven, who seem not disposed to follow in the first team's footsteps.

A really interesting encounter was the game at Cobridge between the reserves of Burslem and Silverdale, for although the home side again went under, and to some tune, the game was not dull. Silverdale scored 172, whilst the “wooden-spoonists” could only gather from all sources a “bag” of 90. Silverdale ought never to have got anything approaching the total they did, for the scouting was weak in all departments. E. Lowe played a clever innings for his 35, quite a contrast to A. Kirkham's lusty aggressiveness in getting 37 (not out). Ankers (21), Morris (20), and Webb (17) each deserve high commendation for their efforts.

The chief factor in the downfall of Burslem was the bowling of Groom, who captured the first six wickets at a cost of 13 runs. He got a wicket in his third, fourth, fifth, two in the sixth, and one in the seventh overs, and just missed the “hat trick.” Seven wickets were down for 45, of which Podmore claimed 16, and defeat was sure. Certainly there was a great improvement in the later stages, the eighth wicket falling at 66, the ninth at 72, and the last at 90. E. Sambrookes took risks, and scored freely, being credited with 22 (not out). Davenport (12) and Throp (10) assisted ably. Groom's final figures were six for 27, whilst Kirkham, Street, Morris, and Fletcher with two for 10, Duncuff with three for 31, Belcher with two for 28, and Mayland with two for 37 were the successful bowlers. Thus Silverdale secured their first win of the season, and I heartily congratulate them. They are a good side, and will win many matches yet. Their fielding was much smarter than the home team's, and they seemed to revel in the game.

PORHILL PARK.

Triumph Over Tunstall.

(By "Yorker.")

There was a good gate at Porthill to witness the return match between Tunstall and Porthill, though many were kept away by the morning's rain. A hearty cheer greeted Barnes when he came out to open the innings with H. F. Wood, and everybody seemed delighted that he was sufficiently recovered to take his place in the side again, for though he soon lost H. F. Wood, who has done nothing since his fine innings against Silverdale, he and Knight made a good stand for the third wicket and laid the foundation of a handsome total.

Knight was leg before for the second week in succession, and J. S. Knight had previously been out in a similar manner, and three wickets were down for 87. However, on Greatorex joining Barnes, run getting became easy, the new comer hitting out in his usual lively fashion and frequently finding the boundary. He is a most difficult man to bowl at, as he feels no compunction in hitting a good length ball over the fence.

Barnes was run out for 55, when he seemed to tire. His innings was a sound one, and contained eight boundaries. Mawdesley succeeded and inspired confidence from the start. He has struck his form at last, and on this occasion he played a fine innings of 53, getting his runs by lovely strokes all round the wicket. His batting throughout was faultless. Greatorex did not leave until his score was 37, and although his hitting was not of such a hurricane character as at Tunstall, it was excellent in every way. J. Poole chipped in with a useful score of 11 not out, and the innings was closed at 204 for seven—an innings quite in character with the batting strength of the side.

Eardley bowled Pepper with his first ball, and then Allman and Blackwell took the score to 39 for the second wicket, although Barnes bowled the latter with a no-ball. On J. S. Heath going on, Blackwell hit a full toss of his to square leg, where Eardley brought off a fine catch. Broad, who has quite established himself in the visitors' first eleven by his consistent and vigorous batting, got 11 when he was well caught by Greatorex. The fourth wicket fell for 67, but nobody else stayed, as Greatorex and Barnes settled the remainder between them, aided by some fine catching. Two of these catches were made by Greatorex, one by Barnes, and one each by Lowndes and Knight. Barnes had four for 23 and Greatorex had four for 31, and the fielding was good throughout.

The second eleven took part in a high-scoring match at Brownhills, 394 runs being obtained during the four and a half hours' play. Tunstall batted first on a wicket which kicked a good deal. Winkle, in the early part of the innings, got a useful baker's dozen, and Johnson got the same number, but the highest score was made by Holdercroft, who, although he was very uncomfortable and was frequently in difficulties with the bowling, did not leave until he had compiled 46. A new man in the person of Barlow showed very promising form for 11, and he should train on. D. Eardley got 14, but he was lucky not to be given out stumped to J. Marsh. Lloyd did fairly well in the bowling line with four for 32. Taylor was off form, and had two for 50, while W. L. Holdercroft bowled ten overs for 16 runs and three wickets. The fielding on the whole was good, and especially that of Jones, who works hard. J. Marsh took a very difficult catch at long slip.

The wicket rolled out better for Porthill, though it was always bad at one end, and after Groot left with the score at eight H. T. Marsh and P. E. Wood took the score to 71 for the second wicket by good, sound batting. While they were together the running between the wickets was excellent. P. E. Wood was stumped for 24, and then J. Marsh joined his brother and continued the merry tale until Bert Marsh was caught with the score at 108 for three wickets. Of these he had obtained an excellent 54. He is in good form this year, and last week he laid on the wood more than usual. J. Marsh left soon afterwards, having made 24 by well timed hitting, and then the Holdercrofts, father and son, stayed until the match was won. Later on Taylor and Lloyd had an enjoyable time. Taylor got 54, though he ought to have been caught halfway through his innings. He hit eight boundaries. Lloyd, with 31 from his new "Sentinel" bat, found the rails on seven occasions. Then Jones, who was played for his fielding and bowling, got five boundaries in a score of 21 not out. Porthill finished at 265.

The "A" team caught a severe cold at Woore. The home team got 146, and tumbled the Porthill men out for 32. Higginson did the execution, and the first five men got "ducks." Perhaps the drive was too long for them!

NORTON.

OLD RIVALS AT FORD GREEN.

There are no older established clubs in the North Staffordshire League than Leek and Norton. There were times when a meeting between these clubs would have been a great attraction, but the Norton club appear to be under a cloud at present, and the gate on Saturday was a poor one. There were several interesting features in the game of a week ago. Sedgwick was responsible for a fine performance in capturing nine wickets at a cost of only 28 runs. Although plenty of rain had fallen the wicket was a good one, presenting no unusual difficulties to the batsmen. Sedgwick kept a good length throughout, and as he evidently found a spot he proved practically unplayable.

The Norton score was practically the work of three men—T. Skellam, Mee, and A. Capes. Skellam's contribution of 31 was invaluable, for it was made at a time when his colleagues could do nothing, and great credit is due to him for his fine effort. The support given by Capes was also well worthy of recognition, and while enhancing his own reputation he materially assisted his old associate to compile a fine innings of 43. The fielding was good, excellent work being done by J. Smith, L. Evans, H. Wright, and W. Ruston, while A. Smith was very smart behind the sticks.

Sedgwick's performance was not confined to the ball alone, for he hit well, and his forceful cricket won Leek the game. In saying this there is no desire to discount the valuable and excellent batting of W. Cantrell, who contributed 57 not out, but Sedgwick's style is one to delight an enthusiastic cricketer, for in his short stay he managed to gather 34. Twice he hit the ball clean out of the ground, and altogether his display was most exhilarating. Leek were able to declare at 126, thus winning by 17 runs with four wickets in hand.

The second eleven at Chell failed in the most ignominious manner to reproduce that form which has placed them in possession of the shield.

KNYPERSLEY.

TWO WINS FOR THE JUNIORS.

Through the friendly fixture with Cheddleton Asylum being scratched, the premier eleven found themselves without a match for last Saturday, so the opportunity was taken to considerably strengthen both the junior teams for the League games against Hanford and Chell on the Knypersley enclosure. Under these circumstances, it seemed rather a pity that both the visiting teams should turn up short of their full complement of players, and Hanford commenced the game with only six men, but they took first knock, and three other players arrived in time to take part in the game. Even then the game was shorn of much of its interest, for the nine Hanford men naturally proved no match for the strong Knypersley team, who gained an easy victory with eight wickets in hand. So effectively did F. H. Goodall and E. Bedson bowl that the first four Hanford wickets fell for 13, and the innings terminated for the poor score of 56. Goodall and Bedson bowled unchanged throughout, the latter taking four wickets for 19 runs and Goodall four for 35. J. Whiston and L. Cornwall opened the Knypersley innings, and though the first wicket fell early, Whiston and E. Mosedale took the score to 53 before the former left, and then E. Leadbeater partnering Mosedale the runs were quickly hit off and the total taken to 95, when the Hanford players terminated the game by coming off the field. Mosedale played a very sound innings for his 51 not out.

The "A" Team put up a fine performance against Chell, for the visiting batsmen fared most disastrously against some really remarkable bowling by J. Williams and E. Round, and were dismissed in seven overs for the paltry score of 17. Round took four wickets for nine runs, while Williams had even better figures, taking five wickets for seven runs. Knypersley quickly hit off the necessary runs for the loss of four wickets, and finally took their total to 60, J. Lowe playing a freely-hit innings for 21 not out.

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TUNSTALL.

THE VISIT TO PORHILL.

The visit to Porthill is admittedly one of the stiffest hurdles on the Tunstall future card, and it was rather unfortunate that they should have to make the journey without Farrell, whose injured hand prevented him from playing. The vacancy was filled by W. Blackwell, who thus made his debut with the first team, and he had the satisfaction of being the highest scorer on his side—truly a very favourable start for a promising junior.

Porthill, who batted first, were in a rare scoring mood. Barnes led the way with a capital innings, which included eight boundaries. Greatorex, whose batting at Tunstall had evidently not been forgotten, gave the fielders another sample of his prowess, adding 37 before he was caught by Boulton. The highest scorer of the match was Mawdesley who accumulated 58; of which 36 came from boundary hits. Although he was missed by Boulton at 31, his innings was a capital display. As would be thought, the Tunstall attack suffered considerably from such forceful hitting, Gregory coming out with the best average, with four wickets for 53.

The bowling of Barnes and Greatorex proved too good for the Tunstall batsmen, who, with the exception of Blackwell, Allman and Broad, offered but little resistance to the attack, and were all out for 90. Barnes and Greatorex each secured four wickets.

The second team fared no better than the premier eleven, suffering defeat at the hands of the Porthill second team. The principal scorer for the home side was A. Holdercroft, who compiled 46 out of a total of 128.

STONE.

RAIN SAVES LONGTON.

It is a singular circumstance that, although the season is not half over, the Stone club have already met three opponents minus their professionals. Barnes, it will be remembered, was absent when Porthill were met, and so was Butler when Stoke was visited, and last week Brown was absent from the Longton side. If this sort of thing continues the North Staffordshire professionals will look askance at the dates with which Stone are concerned. As Stone were without B. Maakin and A. F. Fernic, things were more or less balanced. Stone gave a creditable batting display, for after losing N. E. P. Harris quite early, the score had been advanced to within half-a-dozen of the century when the second wicket fell. Anthony, who got 51, and thereby earned talent money, has the Longton square leg to thank, for he gave a simple sort of chance which was not accepted. H. Price, jun., apart from one or two bad strokes, compiled his 46 without giving a chance. With 142 for five wickets, and time getting on, the later batsmen could afford to hit out, and though they paid the penalty it was the proper game to play, for 166 was, in the ordinary course of things, immune from defeat.

Longton were saved by the rain, and it was particularly hard lines on Stone that just when victory was within grasp a dark cloud settled over the ground, and within a few minutes came a sharp shower, which enabled Longton to divide the points. Apart from the rain, Stone should have won, and must have won had the chances offered been taken. It is the old story, and seems likely to go on to the end of the chapter. A. Smith, who finished with 30 (not out), was missed in the slips off Woodcock's first ball, and two other easier catches were missed. It is poor consolation to say that the same thing happened to Longton. Maybe this streak of bad luck in catching will pass away, and it will make a wonderful difference when it does. Longton finished with 87 for six, and E. R. H. Woodcock's five wickets for 35 runs was a distinctly good performance.

The Stone second string were at Sandon, where the home side ran up a score of 145. The chief contributors were Dr. Baker, with 61, and Dr. Lloyd Williams, who batted excellently for 34. Tomlinson was Stone's most effective bowler, for he captured six wickets for a trifle more than 40 runs. Sandon—who last year declared and were beaten—only gave Stone 45 minutes' batting, and they scored 42 for two. J. E. Rushton got 19, and was not out at the close.

The Workingmen's Club won a creditable victory, making 76 to the 25 totalled by Stafford Press. A. Woolley was the chief scorer for Stone, while H. Bailey, a promising fast bowler, took six wickets for nine runs, and Tams also had an excellent analysis. Wood took eight Stone wickets for 20 runs.

STOKE.

Fall Against Fenton.

(By "Wanderer.")

After making such good progress as to get rid of the strong Fenton side for only five over the hundred, it was disappointing that the Stoke team found it beyond them to give the leaders their first defeat. The sensation at the commencement of the encounter was the dismissal of E. H. Bourne, the brilliant first wicket batsman of the Fenton side, before he had scored. Matters looked very promising indeed when H. Dearing retired with only one to his credit, and when Gill returned to the pavilion three wickets were down for eight runs. H. Eagland and J. G. Drake improved matters, inasmuch as the score was 43 when the latter put up the ball in the slips and made way for A. Mellor, who soon left again. G. E. Roberts helped his captain to further augment the score, but when the partnership was broken wickets fell quickly and the side were all out to enable the visitors to commence batting before half-past-four.

The wicket was of a treacherous nature, but even so the fall of Fenton was remarkable. Still, the failure of Stoke was worse, and the whole side were out for less than 80. W. D. Kirkby was the top scorer of the side. During the Stoke innings, P. Briggs and A. G. Jones lent their services as substitutes in the field. Butler's five wickets for 38 runs was the best bowling done by the losers.

The second team were very badly beaten at home by the Fenton reserves, who are a very strong lot. L. Boulemier carried his bat through the home innings for 45 out of the 65 scored by the side. The Fenton score was 235 for one wicket when play finished; Roscoe had made 122 and Hawley had obtained 75, and both remained unbeaten.

LONGTON.

BROWN INDISPOSED.

Seldom have Longton had to take the field without their popular professional, but last Saturday the team journeyed to Stone without Brown, and managed to bring away one point. No doubt some of the home supporters will consider they were fortunate in doing so, for although six wickets were down when rain stopped play and still 80 runs required for victory, it is just possible that the uncertainty of the game might have been demonstrated and victory accomplished. Stone having first use of the wicket, were quickly put on good terms with themselves, for Anthony was badly missed with only a single to his account, and although he lost N. E. P. Harris at six, his association with H. Price was instrumental in putting on 88 runs. Several bowling changes were tried, but at length A. Smith found the last corner's wicket, and directly afterwards the same bowler sent back Anthony. Continuing to bowl in deadly style, Smith accounted for J. F. Fernie and K. W. G. Meakin, and J. W. Allen was not long in giving J. Blakeman and A. E. Pitt marching orders. The whole side were out for 166.

Longton started their venture in none too easy a manner, the Rev. L. G. Brown being bowled with only 11 to his account. A. Bradbury left at 31, and shortly afterwards P. Thorley was caught. However, A. Smith continued to bat carefully, and, with J. W. Allin in, a better aspect was put on the game. Eventually the last corner was bowled by Woodcock, and after H. J. Plant and W. Till had been caught, the game had to be abandoned with the score at 87 for six wickets. Smith was (not out) 30, and coupled with that he took six wickets for 44 runs, so that with him assuredly tested the chief honours of the day. It was extremely pleasing that Smith did so well, for he has not had the best of luck lately, and one hopes that this is the forerunner of a number of such exhibitions.

The second eleven entertained the powerful Oldfields side, and after a very interesting encounter, lost their first home encounter since the opening day of the season. There was much speculation on the policy of the visitors' captain giving Longton the first use of the wicket, but as his side were victorious it must be conceded that he did the proper thing. Bradbury treated all the bowling alike, and was eventually out, with 74 to his credit, in attempting to hit Johnson over the enclosure. Oldfields opened carefully, but were well on the road to victory with the falling of the second wicket. After this Heazman, who was fifth man in, hit up double figures quickly, and on H. Redden reaching his 50, the innings was declared at 139 for four wickets.

CREWE ALEXANDRA.

Lucky at Leek.

(By "Veteran.")

Last week cricket was only a secondary consideration with all and sundry who take an interest in the welfare of the Alexandra Athletic Club. The annual festival was responsible for a large influx of visitors from all parts of the country, and the splendid sport which was provided for their edification no doubt satisfied their sporting instincts.

Still, while all this hustle and bustle was taking place at the headquarters of the club there were eleven true Alexandrians doing duty on Mr. Nicholson's pitch at Leek. More power to them who did so well! At one period of the game the visitors looked like being severely trounced by the Highfield team, but fortune favoured the visitors in the latter stages of the play. No doubt the resident scribe will give a correct version of what actually took place in that interesting struggle, but suffice it to say that the re-appearance of Frank White was heartily welcomed. He was responsible for 23, Fred Moorhouse also added 27, while Munroe Walker kept up his reputation with 29, J. Dickinson (16) also deserves a compliment, for he is without doubt a player of many parts on the cricket field. A drawn game was most acceptable to Crewe, seeing that several of the best men were not able to take part in this game.

The Alexandra made a very poor show against the London Athletic Club on Wednesday in the Harrison Cup competition. The visitors did not make a very big show, as 110 runs on a good wicket was not a very huge task to face. Still it sufficed, for with the exception of Edgar Osborn (23), Fred Bennett (22), and G. Hares (9), the others did practically little or nothing, as the last Crewe wicket fell at 70.

George Price has been selected amongst the Cheshire County team to oppose Staffordshire at Crewe a week hence.

FENTON.

Fenton not only preserved their unbeaten certificate, but by beating Stoke added two points. There was not much scoring on Saturday, and the compiling of less than 200 runs in about four hours by strong batting sides like Stoke and Fenton, and an easy scoring ground such as Fenton is, shows the queerness of the wicket. Fenton, batting first, early had a sad defeat in prospect, for Bourne, Dearing, and Gill were all out before ten appeared. Then Eagland, who had played a capital innings on the Monday before, found a helpmate in Drake, and the pair steadily put on the runs. They did not reach the half-century, however, before Drake was out to a smart catch in the slips.

Much was hoped for from Mellor, but, for the depth of about a sixteenth of an inch, the surface was soft, and the ball behaved in an extraordinary manner, at times kicking up awkwardly and at others shooting straight for the pegs; one of the latter, from F. C. Johnson, a true express, broke Mellor's stump and Roberts went in to his captain's assistance. Roberts rendered yeoman aid, and outstayed Eagland, who had played an incalculable part in the compilation of his 28 runs. Going in when two wickets were down for one run, he came out with the score at 80, truly a fine performance in such circumstances. Stoke were keen on getting the Fenton men out, and Roberts, not staying long after Eagland's departure, there were only 95 runs on at the fall of the ninth wicket. Downs and Skellern caused trouble, but Skellern was soon out and the innings realised only 105. The score sheet is curious reading, as the brothers Johnson had a hand in the dismissal of the first eight batsmen. Butler's deliveries proved puzzling, and he annexed half the wickets.

Stoke started with P. Briggs and F. C. Johnson, but they found runs no easier to get than Fenton had done. Briggs was out to a superlatively good catch by Collis, the first wicket falling at 19. Butler came out without adding to this score, and Taylor, his successor, after giving a hard chance in the slips, was all but thrown out by Eagland, who strained himself so badly in the attempt as to necessitate the attendance of Dr. Hopwood. He took no further part in the game. The captain's absence was a great loss to Fenton, but they redoubled their efforts and first Briggs and later Jones lending ready aid as substitutes, earned applause for smart fielding.

Downs and Gill bowled finely, and Downs at one stage had three wickets for seven runs, in six overs, no less than four of which were maidens. Kirkby proved the mainstay of the Stoke side and his 27 being not only his highest score against Fenton, but nearly equal to his aggregate runs made against his old side since joining Stoke.

At 71 Downs was given a rest in favour of Skellern, but Gill got the wickets, Kirkby being ninth man out at 76. This proved Stoke's total. Jones deserves hearty praise for the catch which dismissed Loney, as well as for the whole-hearted way in which he fielded for Eagland. Gill took five wickets for 30, and Downs four for 33.

The second team soundly trounced the Stoke men on the County Ground. The home side batted first, but cut up very badly against the bowling of Percy Bagguley, no one shaping like run-getting except L. Boulemier, the captain, who went in first and carried his bat through for a splendid innings of 45, out of a total of 65. Bagguley's final figures were seven for 19. Fenton opened with B. Wallace and H. Roscoe, and 40 was on the books before they were separated. Weir making a splendid catch off a tremendous drive by Wallace, who had made 27. H. Hawley was the next man in and soon the Stoke score was passed. The two had some good batting practice, taking the score to 235 for one and then the innings was declared. Stoke tried eight bowlers, including the wicket-keeper. In the end Roscoe made 122 not out and Hawley 75 not out.

CHELL.

FINE VICTORY OVER NORTON.

The Chell cricketers have been spoiling for a couple of points for some time now, and their friends will heartily congratulate them upon their fine victory over last season's champions. The game was played on a ground that was certainly to the advantage of the bowlers, and S. Lawton and J. Clewes had little difficulty in dismissing their opponents for a total of only 59 runs. F. Crump and S. Worthy opened the Norton innings, but whereas Worthy batted in a very cool and able manner, his partner appeared very uneasy to Lawton's bowling, and, after getting three singles, lost his wicket to a catch by Clewes. J. Stonehewer then joined Worthy, and these two players were responsible for 39 of the 59 which the side were able to compile. With the score at 20, Stonehewer was smartly run out. Worthy stayed at the crease until 45 runs were registered, and then fell for the formidable bowling of Lawton. Nevertheless, the 27 which this player secured, were very valuable to his side, as practically all the remaining batsmen failed hopelessly.

Surely, when a side like Norton are dismissed for such a small score, there must be a word or two in praise of the bowling. Neither Lawton nor Clewes have ever bowled better, the length they kept being admirable, and far too superior for their opponents. Lawton secured six wickets for 28 and Clewes three for 31. With practically an easy task before them the captain sent W. Pope and J. Dodd to start the Chell innings. At first, it did not appear as though Chell were going to do any better than their opponents, for Dodd was sent back by a capital catch by Worthy in the long field, from the last ball in the first over. When Tipping joined Pope, matters began to look much brighter for Chell, for this pair of batsmen soon opened their shoulders to Stonehewer's slow bowling.

At 53 a double change in the attack was made, and this soon had the effect which was the desire of the Norton players, for three runs later Worthy found Tipping's wicket. Afterwards the rate of run-getting was very slow, and both E. Barlow and A. Baddeley were returned very cheaply. W. Pope compiled a very creditable 27, which went a long way towards gaining his side the victory.

STALLINGTON.

SURPRISING FORM AT UTTOXETER.

How fickle is form! After lowering the colours of the prospective champions, Stallington last week went under to a team who are struggling to escape the last places. At one time there was a promise of the home side making a big score, as 48 had been scored before the first wicket fell. Subsequently, however, the bowlers had a good time, and the side were all out for 84. Stallington obtained 65 and so Uttoxeter claimed the verdict. The fielding of the Stallington team was not up to the usual standard, but the state of the outfield—which was quite six inches deep in grass—had something to do with this.

LEEK.

SUCCESSFUL ON THE NORTON GROUND.

The Leek team gained another meritorious victory on Saturday last, defeating Norton on their own ground by four wickets. The home captain won the toss, and sent in J. Smith and Rushton to face the bowling of Sedgwick and Pointon. The professional was once more in splendid form, and but for the fact that Pointon was for once in a way off form, the Norton score would have been a very poor one. There was good excuse for Pointon's temporary falling off, for he was suffering from a bad cold, and was not really in a fit condition to turn out. The few Leek supporters present were delighted when Sedgwick, in his first over, bowled Smith. Skellam joined Rushton, and the score was taken to 30, when the latter was also bowled by Sedgwick. H. Wright was next man in, but he had his wicket shattered first ball by a splendid delivery from Sedgwick.

None of the Norton batsmen were able to face Sedgwick with any confidence, and out of their total of 109 Sedgwick had the splendid analysis of nine wickets for 28 runs, six of his victims being clean bowled. In Saturday night's report of the match it was stated that Sedgwick had bowled six no balls, but this was an error, as Sedgwick only bowled two no-balls; Birch bowled three and Pointon one. These were the only extras scored against Leek, which speaks well for the wicket-keeping of W. Ellerton. Skellam (31) and Mee (43 not out) batted well, and it was very hard lines for the latter to miss his 50.

Brunt and Byrne opened for Leek, and a none too promising start was made, two wickets falling for 19 runs. Cantrill and Pointon improved matters by taking the score to 49, when the latter was caught by Mee off his own bowling. Two more wickets fell quickly, and with half the side out for 62, it was anybody's game. Sedgwick joined Cantrill, and quickly proved that he is not only a bowler, but also a good bat, and very soon they put the result beyond doubt. The score was carried to 105, when Sedgwick was caught at slip. He had played a splendid innings for 34. Bradley was next in, and the score was taken to 127, when the innings was declared closed, Leek winning a capital game by four wickets. Too much praise cannot be bestowed on Cantrill, who played a grand innings of 57 not out. Cantrill has batted consistently well all the season, and his batting on Saturday last was a treat to watch. He thoroughly deserved the applause which greeted the completion of his 50.

OLDFIELDS.

AT THE TOP OF THE TABLE.

The league fixture on Saturday was at Longton where the Oldfields journeyed with the anticipation of a good match, and in this they were not disappointed, though they captured the points in rather easy fashion. The home side had first use of a good wicket, and carried the total to 146, of which Bradbury with 74, was the chief contributor. Johnson who was put on almost at the close of the innings, was the most successful bowler, taking three wickets at a cost of one run each.

The visitors made a start with Redden and Walker to the bowling of Stubbs and Stevenson and the pair carried the score to 40, before Walker was stumped by Gregory, having contributed 22 by good cricket. Johnson then joined Redden, and a fine stand was made, and 70 runs were added by excellent cricket. The score had reached 110 when Johnson, who had played a free dashing game was bowled with 45 to his credit. Naylor, who was next man in, reached the unlucky 13 when Stevenson clean bowled him. With only seven runs required for a win, Heasman joined Redden, and after scoring a single, he hit 18 in one over from Taylor—four fours and a two.

With the score at 159 for four the innings closed. Redden, who played a patient and careful game, took out his bat for just the half century. One was glad to notice a marked improvement in the fielding of the Oldfields team and it is hoped this will be continued.

The friendly team received a visit from Rochester and gained a very easy victory. The visitors had first use of an excellent wicket, but they made a wretched start, six wickets being down for nine runs. But Hoolley, Elkes, and J. Fearn improved matters, putting on 59 runs, the final score reaching 76. The most successful bowlers were A. Ford and Critchley. On going in to bat, Oldfields passed the visitors score with five wickets down, and five of the batsmen made double figures, S. Johnson being the chief contributor with 38; the innings closing for 138.

LEEK HIGHFIELD.

CREWE FORCE A DRAW.

The visitors to the Highfield ground last week were Crewe Alexandra, and they were lucky to get away with a point, for had the fielding of the Highfielders been at all decent in the closing stages they would most certainly have been beaten. The home team batted first, and shaped well, no less than five being responsible for double figures. True, the visitors were not at full strength, the old war-horse, George Price, being on the injured list, but the Highfield nevertheless were in good form. H. Hulme, a young left-hander, was prominent with 32, and was unfortunate in being run out. The brothers Beach both batted well, and A. Baskerville got 25 not out, his pulling being the main feature of his innings. A. Hulme was also not out with 18 to his credit, the total being 150 for seven when the home captain declared.

Crewe started badly, and with two good wickets down for six runs it looked as if Highfield were going to win, but thanks to bad fielding and decent batting on the part of J. Dickenson, F. White, Moorhouse, and M. Walker, the Alexandra scraped through with a draw, nine wickets being down for 126. Highfield will do well to get some catching practice.

AUDLEY.

GOOD-BYE TO THE SENTINEL CUP.

Judged in the light of their two latest displays, Audley are a striking example of inconsistency. On Saturday, in a Combination fixture, they entertained Pittshill at the Kent Hills enclosure, and defeated them handsomely; and then, two days later, when the match was of even a much more important character, they were humbled in the dust at Bignall End, in the second round of the Sentinel cup competition. A brief survey of the two encounters would not be without interest. Pittshill, who batted first, were instrumental in putting up a not too formidable score of 82, to which Audley responded with 85 for three wickets. Jack Dale virtually saved his side from the ignominy of defeat, his 56 being obtained in the skilful manner usually associated with his batting. G. Timmins contributed 19, and H. Hancock got 12. Pittshill, who found the trundling of A. Proctor, F. Dale, and J. Dale fairly reliable and steady, were best represented in batting by G. White, G. H. Rhodes, and T. Johnson.

The ignominious failure of Audley when opposed to Bignall End surprised most people, but on the season's results there can be no question as to who are the better team. To have to face a score of 172 for five would probably have damped the ardour of most clubs, and so it proved to be in the case of Audley, who did not suggest even a fight in a total of 27. The outstanding feature was the batting of J. H. Mayer, who collected 64, and who, as everybody knows, made a century in last year's final for the same trophy. A. Ikin (46), H. Johnson (24), and F. Burgess (22 not out) also did well. In bowling, T. Burgess had the remarkable figures of four for one; J. Mayer scored four for 17, and G. Mayer had two for

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STAFFORDSHIRE GENTLEMEN & SHROPSHIRE GENTLEMEN.

At Aldershaw, Lichfield, on Monday and Tuesday, a match was played between a team of Staffordshire Gentlemen and a team of Shropshire Gentlemen, the former winning easily by an innings and 79 runs. The representatives of the home county batted first and scored 243. Shropshire replied with the rather insignificant total of 63 runs, and upon following on only made a further 101. In their second innings the Staffordshire Gentlemen hit up 168 for seven wickets. The best individual batting feats were accomplished by R. H. Kyrstedt and R. Sale. Scores:

STAFFORDSHIRE GENTLEMEN		2nd Innings	
1st Innings			
R. H. Kyrstedt, b. Jones	40	b. Clarke	69
J. M. Dudley (over), b. Jones	3	not out	26
R. Sale, c. Fildes, b. Jones	68	c. R. Jones, b. Ethelston	4
W. M. Hallley, b. Jones	0	b. Jones	4
H. J. Newton, c. Doraby, b. Fildes	11	not out	5
H. C. Gardner, b. Jones	0	c. and b. Fildes	2
H. A. Page, c. Ethelston, b. Hallley	18		
A. C. D. Lee, b. Hallley	17		
Major W. J. Harrison, b. Hallley	0	c. Taylor, b. Clarke	16
C. E. A. Deakin, not out	48	c. Page, b. Clarke	15
Capt. R. A. Fox, not out	26	c. Fildes, b. Clarke	4
Extras	14	Extras	14
Total	243	Total (2 wickets)	104

SHROPSHIRE GENTLEMEN		2nd Innings	
1st Innings			
R. A. Clarke, b. Hallley	15	b. Newton, b. Hallley	12
R. Hammer Jones, b. W. M. Hallley	6	not out	26
The Rev. F. R. Hartley, c. Newton, b. Hallley	0	c. and b. Lee	3
H. W. Ethelston, b. Sale	11	b. Lee	6
R. Foster (over), b. Hallley	0	c. W. Page	10
G. Hutchinson, c. Deakin, b. Sale	8	run out	13
C. D. Fawcett, b. Sale	4	b. Lee	4
H. Thorne, c. Lee, b. Sale	0	b. Lee	1
R. Hammer Jones, c. Page, b. Hallley	1	b. Hallley	4
H. Bolton (over), not out	0	c. Deakin, b. Page	8
G. S. M. Taylor, b. Hallley	0	c. Kyrstedt, b. Lee	11
Extras	13	Extras	7
Total	63	Total	101

STAFFORD V. THE PRESIDENT'S XI.

This match was played at The Hough, Stafford, on Wednesday. The weather kept fair all day, though there were some occasions during the progress of the game when a downfall of rain appeared to be imminent. The President (Mr. Arthur W. Meakin), whose absence in consequence of indisposition was regretted by all, had got together a strong eleven, including several members of the Uttoxeter Oldfields Club, Mr. F. H. Thornhill, of Stafford, who proved to be top scorer on the side, and Mr. W. G. Grestock, who is a fellow-member of the Porthall Club with Barnum, the well-known county cricketer. Mr. Grestock was very successful both with bat and ball, for he scored 17 at the wickets and his deliveries with the leather proved to be exceedingly disastrous for the home team, as he took seven wickets for 48 runs in 24 overs, including seven maidens. His style is very reminiscent of Barnes, and he has evidently been a not inapt student of that well-known player's style. Of the Stafford side it can only be said that it was an average mid-week team, and it was regretted that neither of the brothers Twigg was able to turn out. The game was commenced about midday, when Redden and C. Nichols, for the visitors, faced the attack of Gobeys and Wright. The pair scored fairly fast at the commencement, but with 26 runs registered Nichols fell a victim to a well pitched ball by Gobeys. With only one run added, Napton, who had followed in, was dismissed by Wright, and then Grestock and Redden got together and commenced to put runs on very quickly, the latter accumulating 17 runs in ten minutes before Gobeys brought about his downfall. There was nothing else of note before the luncheon interval, when the score stood at 57 for six wickets. On the resumption, Thornhill batted well for his 37, and the way in which he was dismissed was worthy of special note. He was beautifully caught at the wicket on the leg-side by Daly, the home side's wicket-keeper, whose achievement it was loudly applauded. The last wicket had resulted in the addition of 48 runs to the score, bringing it up to 105. Then, however, a stump set in, and the remaining three wickets were captured at a cost of 12 runs, bringing up the total to 117. Wright and V. H. Robins opened the Stafford innings most auspiciously to the bowling of Grestock and Heasman, and 29 were on the board before Robins fell a victim to one of Grestock's seductive ones. Play became rather slow and lame for a time, but wickets continued to fall at small cost chiefly due to the deadly bowling of Grestock. With the last ball before tea he captured another wicket, and on the resumption he had two others in quick time, taking five wickets in four overs at a cost of four runs. His bowling average at this point showed the fine figure of seven wickets for 46 runs. Seven wickets were down for 83, the eighth fell at the same total, the ninth brought the total up to 108 when Daly's leg wicket was displaced after he had scored three. C. L. Packer was at the other end and seemed to be batting with confidence, getting three fours in quick succession, but unfortunately Gobeys was smartly stumped by Scott off Heasman with his second ball, and the innings and match ended at six o'clock in a victory for the President's XI, by 151 runs to 108. Score:—

PRESIDENT'S XI	
H. Redden, b. Wright	27
C. Nichols, b. Gobeys	13
W. Napton, b. Wright	0
W. Heasman, c. Daly, b. Gobeys	11
F. H. Thornhill, c. Daly, b. Gobeys	37
W. Grestock, b. Gobeys	17
C. Sandham, b. Davey	10
R. G. Scott, c. Gobeys, b. Robins	3
W. W. Morgan, c. Packer, b. Wright	8
P. G. Dyke, b. Gobeys	7
C. Advertiser, not out	5
Extras	12
Total	151

STAFFORD	
E. I. Wright, c. Scott, b. Grestock	21
V. H. Robins, b. Grestock	10
A. J. Richards, c. Heasman, b. Grestock	2
E. O. Powell, b. Sandham	8
J. Green, b. Grestock	14
A. J. Ward, c. Thornhill, b. Grestock	17
C. L. Packer, not out	17
V. I. Robins, b. Grestock	5
G. C. Davy, b. Grestock	0
J. Daly, b. Heasman	3
F. Gobeys, c. Scott, b. Heasman	0
Extras	11
Total	108

BOWLING ANALYSIS

PRESIDENT'S XI				
	O	M	R	W
Gobeys	14	3	50	5
Wright	16	3	41	3
V. H. Robins	6	2	12	1
G. C. Davy	8	0	14	1
STAFFORD				
	O	M	R	W
W. Grestock	24	1	48	7
W. Heasman	11	2	20	2
Sandham	10	1	21	1
Nichols	3	0	9	0

HARRY ANTHONY.

Professional to the Stone Club.

(By "Wanderer.")



Harry Anthony, who takes his benefit at Stone to-day, was born on May 16th, 1878, at Old Basford, on the outskirts of Nottingham; the place, in fact, from whence came William Lockwood, the famous Notts-born Surrey player, who was then a regular player of the club, which Anthony first joined when only 15 years of age, viz., the Forest Wanderers. Anthony played in the second eleven for a couple of years, and his ability at the end of that period drafted him into the first eleven. Batting was his chief forte then, and in his first year with the Forest second team he averaged 28, and in the second year his average was 35. His initial year in the Forest Wanderers first eleven resulted in him getting second place with an average of 24; the top average man was Frank Shacklock, a famous Notts player. That year Anthony's average with the bat was 24, and he also took 22 wickets at a cost of 14 runs per wicket. In the following year he was invited to play in the annual Notts' Colts' match, and it is interesting to relate that John Mee, the present Norton professional, was one of his victims, the others being W. Barnes, Mordecai Sherwin, and W. Atterwell. He took four wickets for 24, and won the ball offered by the County Committee to the best bowler in the match. Anthony has the ball mounted in silver with the following inscription:—"Notts, C.C.C. Presented to H. Anthony for best bowling average; Colts' match, 1895." That year he joined the Notts Commercial Club on the recommendation of Alfred Shaw and Attewell, who, when not engaged with the County, played for the club. His first season with the Notts Commercial was a splendid one, his record being 89 wickets for 12 runs each and a batting average of 29. Anthony then attracted the attention of Richard Daff, who became one of the Stone professional's best friends. In his second season with the Commercial he took 71 wickets for 10 runs each, with a batting average of 23.

It was then he was invited to play for the Notts second team against such clubs as Yorkshire II, Surrey II, and Warwickshire, which was then a second-class county. In the match against Yorkshire II, he got top score for his side in both innings, batting against J. T. Brown, the famous fast bowler. In that match Anthony had a big share, for he got four wickets for 14 in the first innings and five for 23 in the second innings, he and J. Tremonger bowling throughout. Against Warwickshire he took seven wickets for 35 runs and got 36 off the bat. Other excellent performances were accomplished whilst Anthony was an amateur, and after five years with Notts Commercial and the County second eleven he took his first engagement as a professional in 1897, going to Burnley St. Andrew's. He did wonderfully well for the Lancashire club, for they gained the championship of the Ribblesdale League. He took 44 wickets at a cost of half-a-dozen runs each and had an average of 28 with the bat. Here it was he came under the notice of the late Johnny Briggs, who strongly advised

him to return to his native county, and, largely in consequence of that advice, he returned home and was engaged by the Notts County Club, and played regularly with the Club and Ground. That season he played two matches with Notts, against Kent and Lancashire. His first ball in County cricket got him a wicket, for he bowled C. V. J. Weigall, the Kent amateur.

Apart from these two County matches, Anthony took 24 wickets during the season, at a cost of 11 runs each, and he had a good average with the bat. In the following season he was given a trial against Worcestershire, and again did well. A curious incident arose in this match. Worcestershire batted first on a perfect wicket, scoring over 300 runs, and Notts had a little batting on the first day. On the second day there was a series of thunderstorms, and on the third day the wicket was in a bad state. Notts were all out on the first innings for 102, and, following on, went in shortly after four. The first two men made a good stand, with the result that several of the players, including Wass and Oates, left for Nottingham on the 5.30 train. But a series of disasters happened, with the result that only Anthony and his colleague at the other wicket were left to bat. It was an anxious time for Anthony, who, however, refused to be beaten, and together the two batsmen played out time. This resulted in hearty congratulations from A. O. Jones. Later in the season Anthony played at Lord's against the M.C.C., and also took part in second-class county matches. He accompanied the team to the South of England as reserve, but was not called upon to play, though the Notts public wrote numbers of letters to the Press asking for his inclusion. He was also selected as reserve against Lancashire and Yorkshire, but did not play against either. As a result of this Anthony refused to re-engage with Notts unless definitely promised twelve county matches. This was refused, and so Anthony shook the dust of Nottingham from his feet and engaged himself with Norton, a prominent Stockton-on-Tees club, which was then captained by C. L. Townsend, the Gloucestershire amateur. Here he did splendidly, once taking 13 wickets in one match, when playing for Lord Londonderry's team against Seaham Harbour. In all he got 94 wickets. Whilst here he played for Northallerton against a Yorkshire eleven, and had the pleasure of bowling F. S. Jackson, Rhodes, Tunnicliffe, J. T. Brown, and Hirst. For this performance he was presented with the ball, handsomely mounted, and it was largely, if not wholly, owing to his performance in this match that he was invited to make the trip to South Africa. He was asked, too, to play for the County again, and he did so, appearing against Sussex. He got 14 runs with the bat, and had the satisfaction of catching out Prince Ranjitsinghi. There arose no opportunity of bowling, for Wass and Hallam trundled throughout. He was then invited to go with Notts on their Southern tour, but his club refused to let him off, and he was not asked again. However, he continued to do excellent work for his club, and at the end of 1903 was asked by Lord Hawke to take the engagement as coach to the Western Provinces club, which occupies the position in South Africa much as the M.C.C. does here. The post ranks high in the professional world, for it has been held by several first class men, including Lohmann, of Surrey.

It would take a column to give even a resume of Anthony's experiences in South Africa. Sufficient to say that, though he was the most highly paid professional they had yet had, the South African club were highly pleased with his services. Altogether he took 80 wickets in 23 matches for just under 10 runs each, and he had a batting average of 28.

On arrival home in the spring of 1904 Anthony engaged with Halifax, where he put up a better record than any professional of the previous ten years. His first season resulted in a batting average of 25 and 83 wickets for 10 runs each. He engaged for a second season and finished with 73 wickets for 11 runs each and a batting average of 20. After two seasons with Halifax, he went to Lowerhouse, a Lancashire League Club. His remarkable success there has already been dealt with in the columns of the "Sentinel."

As is well-known, Anthony has re-engaged with Stone, and he is likely to do even better, though the Stone Club are quite satisfied with his performance. Personally he is a genial and unassuming fellow, and makes friends wherever he goes. A keen cricketer, he is nevertheless a good sportsman. He is always a trier, a quality admired by sportsmen, and assuming that he stays at Stone a third season he should make a valuable addition to the County Club. He is comparatively young, always keeps fit, and is likely to play efficient cricket for many years.

STAFFORDSHIRE V. WARWICKSHIRE GENTLEMEN.

A two-days' match was begun on the Stafford Cricket Ground at The Hough on Monday, when Staffordshire Gentlemen met Warwickshire Gentlemen. The Staffordshire players batted first on a wicket which was rendered difficult by the rain which had fallen early in the morning. The bowling from one end of the pitch was very awkward to play, the ball rising to a great height. This fact accounted in a large measure for the comparatively small score made by Staffordshire. Furber, Barr, Lyon, and Terry being the only batsmen to reach double figures. They played a very attractive innings, and it was rather unlucky for his side that he did not arrive on the ground in time to go in before the fall of the seventh wicket. The condition of the ground had considerably improved when the visitors started their innings, and Scott and Langley for the second wicket scored rapidly, Scott being particularly smart in his hits. Moncrief and Walker also played well, and when stumps were drawn for the day the score totalled 114 for nine wickets. Upon returning on Tuesday, the Warwickshire score was carried to 194. Robins and Furber started the Staffordshire Gentlemen's second innings in a way which showed that the ground had completely recovered from the effects of the rain. Furber hitting up 60 before he was caught. Then a long stand was made by Lyon and Powell. The latter left after having contributed 41, and, singularly enough, his partner followed in the next over from the same bowler after having made 42. The remainder of the batsmen did very little, the whole side being sent at about four o'clock for 243, leaving Warwickshire 151 to get to win. With the exception of Langley, Hart-Davis, and Forreth, none of the batsmen were able to deal satisfactorily with the bowling of Lyon, who, unfortunately, was not able to continue bowling through hurting his hand in stopping a hot return from Hart-Davis. At one period of the game there was every indication that the Staffordshire gentlemen would prove victorious, but Hart-Davis and Forreth made a capital stand, and on Forreth being caught, Hart-Davis found a sturdy supporter in Capt. Freeman. The pair knocked off the necessary runs and the match ended in a win for Warwickshire just before half-past six. For Staffordshire, Lyon took five wickets for 65, and Bagshall four for 68, in Warwickshire's first innings, while Terry took three wickets for 36 and Lyon three for 37 in the second innings. Simpson and Langley bowled well for the visitors. Scores:—

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
V. H. Robins, c. Hart-Davis, b. Simpson	0	c. and b. Moncrief	24
E. D. Furber, c. Langley, b. Simpson	0	c. Freeman, b. Langley	60
Simpson	59	b. Scott, c. Lyon	67
P. Lyon, b. Simpson	5	c. Scott, b. Moncrief	6
D. Barr, b. Davis	5	c. Langley, b. Marshall	10
F. B. Barr, c. and b. Simpson	13	b. Simpson	42
F. O. Powell, b. Langley	41	b. Simpson	10
Capt. For. I. b. w. b. Simpson	5	b. Tritton, b. Marshall	10
P. Lyon, run out	10	b. Simpson	9
J. W. Davis, not out	10	b. Moncrief	9
G. O. Scott, b. Langley	0	b. Simpson	3
R. G. Bagshall, c. G. Smith, b. Langley	0	not out	4
Extras	13	Extras	19
Total	194	Total	243
1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Capt. Tritton, b. Lyon	0	b. Lyon	1
R. Scott, b. Lyon	10	c. Barr, b. Lyon	1
G. O. Scott, c. Scott, b. Lyon	17	I. b. w. b. For	61
R. H. Moncrief, b. Bagshall	11	c. Furber, b. Lyon	6
J. H. Hart-Davis, c. Barr, b. Lyon	1	not out	30
Lyon	65	b. Tritton	9
R. A. J. Bagshall, c. Barr, b. Simpson	68	b. Bagshall	6
G. O. Scott, run out	0	b. Tritton	9
R. A. Walker, c. Bagshall, b. Lyon	0	b. Tritton	9
C. B. Forreth, c. Lyon, b. Bagshall	0	c. For. c. Tritton	24
J. Marshall, b. Bagshall	0	not out	15
Capt. Freeman, not out	11	Extras	19
Extras	13	Total	151
Total	151	Total	194

TO-DAY'S CRICKET.

**K.S. & DISTRICT LEAGUE.
DIVISION I.**

FENTON v. BURSLEM.

BAGGULEY PERFORMS THE HAT TRICK.

These terms met at Fenton. Hollowood and Robinson opened for Burslem, before a fair gate. Gill and Down shared the bowling. Hollowood made a good start, but Robinson and Baguley, and his captain played well, and Bourne came on for Downs at 11. The pace out on 35 runs before Hollowood got in. Then to Gill. E. Cook was out at 57, and then J. H. Hodgkiss and Albert Cook were in association. Bourne gave place to Baguley at 60. The new bowler evoked applause by opening with two maidens, and in his third series he captured Cook. Deyes was the latter's successor, but he did not seem comfortable with Baguley, and at 64 he was caught. Griffiths joined Hodgkiss, whose wicket fell to the next ball from Baguley. With the downfall of Geo. Booth, Baguley achieved the distinction of the "hat trick," and seven wickets were down for 64. Baguley's analysis was now four wickets for two runs in four overs. Griffiths came out without any addition. Larmouth and Duncuff were the next pair. Both players had "flashes," but length Drake sent back Duncuff with a marvellous catch, the fielder turning a somersault in bringing off the catch. Cotterill was out, but Larmouth was bowled by Gill. Deyes and Booth bowling. The Burslem fielders were as keen as Fenton's had been, and at 70 Bourne was cleverly taken in the slips. Hollowood, and saw Drake give a difficult chance to E. Cook in the slips. Runs seemed to get ultimately. Gill lifted Booth over the rails. Price was out to a good catch by several running round to leg. At 20 Gill was bowled by Booth. Baguley was stumped. Easland started with a boundary.

With Easland and Hawley in, there was every appearance of a stand, but Hawley was run out. Ellis followed, but he was bowled without scoring, and Roberts went in. After starting promisingly the last comer was caught in the wicket.

BURSLEM.	
A Hollowood lbw b Gill	22
W T Robinson c Baguley b Downs	6
J H Hodgkiss b Baguley	12
E Cook b Gill	5
A Cook b Baguley	3
Deyes (G.) c Skellern b Baguley	0
J Griffiths c Collis b Gill	0
G Booth b Baguley	0
F C Larmouth b Gill	15
P Duncuff c Drake b Baguley	4
W Duncuff c Drake b Baguley	16
Extras	7
Total	83

FENTON.	
E H Bourne c Deyes	2
J G Drake c Cotterill b Booth	9
Gill (G.) b Booth	13
P W Baguley st Griffiths b Deyes	0
H Hawley run out	0
H Easland not out	0
S C Collis b Booth	0
G E Roberts c Griffiths b Deyes	5
Total (for seven wickets)	40

Fenton, all out, 72.

BOWLING ANALYSIS.
Burslem Innings.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Gill	17.1	5	34	4
H Downs	3	1	5	1
E H Bourne	6	1	20	0
P W Baguley	7	4	8	5

NORTON v. TUNSTALL.

PARKIN BATS WELL.

These clubs met on the Ford Green enclosure in beautiful weather and before a fair attendance. Norton had first use of the wicket, but Parkin was in fine form, and four wickets fell for 45, when Mee joined Crump, who had done the bulk of the scoring. Mee stayed to see the score taken to 87 when he fell to Allman, who had gone on vice Gregory. Ruston had a short stay, and Wright followed, but at 8 Crump was sent back by Parkin for a finely compiled innings of 63. The innings was quickly finished after this. A. Smith being the only other batsman to be out.

Tunstall started with Farrell and Gregory, and six runs were out of Mee's first over. Mee bowled from the other end. Gregory hit him in the boundary but was out next ball. Parkin then got on with his last ball. Mee sent back Farrell, 11 runs being on. Mee's last named gave Tattton a simple one. H Boulton filled the vacancy, but his wicket fell, leaving 11. Then Allman replaced Parkin, who felt splendidly, and the score was on when Mee bowled vice Greg. This proved successful, for after hitting the bowler for six runs he gave Capes a chance, which was accepted. Parkin gave one more when 28, which was not accepted.

NORTON.

F Crump b Parkin	45
J Tattton b Parkin	0
A Capes b Parkin	0
J Boulton b Parkin	0
J Smith b Gregory	3
Mee (R.) b Allman	6
W Boulton b Parkin	13
H Wright b Parkin	0
A Smith not out	1
J H Thomas b Parkin	5
J Mallin b Parkin	1
Extras	0
Total	28

TUNSTALL.

P Farrell b A Capes	5
J Gregory c A Smith b A Capes	5
Parkin (C H.) c Capes b J Mallin	33
J Broad c Tattton b Mee	4
H Boulton b Mee	3
J B Allman b Mee	6
H Hopkins c J Smith b Mee	6
Y Harris c J Smith b Capes	9
E Barlow c A Smith b Capes	0
T Taylor lbw b Capes	3
A Cook not out	0
Extras	0
Total	89

BOWLING ANALYSIS.
Norton Innings.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Parkin (C H.)	15	5	32	8
J Gregory	9	1	27	1
J B Allman	3	1	15	1

Tunstall Innings.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Mee (R J.)	14	2	32	4
A Capes	13	2	42	5
J Mallin	1	0	6	1

SILVERDALE v. CREWE ALEXANDRA.

A SENSATIONAL START.

The team from the town of engines visited the colliery village to-day with hardly a representative side. J. C. Cooper and E. Williams opened Silverdale's venture to the bowling of sensational J. F. Groom. The start was sensational, as Groom disturbed Cooper's stumps with his initial delivery. Cadman came in to assist E. Williams to raise the score, but only ten shots. E. Williams for 20 minutes' effort. Then the score rose steadily, despite bowling changes, an hour's play bringing 60 runs without further separation. Hereabouts, Groom resumed, sending down a maiden, and then with the fifth delivery of the innings, opening breaking down Cadman's defence. The striking batsman had 34 to his credit, compiled fairly. Groom's next fifth ball proved fatal to Ward. Gresty, relieving Price at 91, caused H. Groom's retirement three bowls later. The century was raised by E. Williams after a hundred minutes' play, the same stroke raising his individual score to 50, a feat enthusiastically welcomed by the onlookers. Cope superseded Groom, but without result, the alteration being effected by Mield, out in the country mode, with the score at 120. A run later E. Williams was clean bowled by Gresty. He had batted two hours for his 61 runs, including half a dozen strokes to the rope without giving a semblance of faulty stroke. Gresty's ball sent back Hamner, and H. Sutton was similarly treated three balls later. Gresty bowled was now five wickets for 11 runs.

SILVERDALE.

J C Cooper b Groom	0
F Williams b Groom	61
C Cadman b Groom	34
H Ward b Groom	0
H Groom b Gresty	2
E Williams not out	10
G Hamner not out	3
H Sutton b Gresty	0
G Sutton not out	0
Extras	7
Total (for eight wickets)	128

LEEK HIGHFIELD v. STONE.

RAPID FALL OF WICKETS.

These teams met at Highfield this afternoon in delightful weather before a poor attendance. The home team succeeded in winning the toss, and J. Wilkinson and H. Hulme faced the deliveries of Anthony and G. Meakin. The start was of a most disastrous character, and few lower than four wickets fell for 14 runs. Spencer and A. Hulme could only carry the

total to 22, when the professional was bowled with a yorker by G. Meakin. H. Buxton was out to a catch behind the wicket with only six runs added. The bowling up to now was very poor indeed, and of the victims H. Hulme (six) was the highest scorer. Astbury got his leg in front of a straight ball from G. Meakin at 30. A. Hulme was defending his wicket well, but he ought to have been easily caught at mid-on by Fernie when he had contributed nine. He was joined by A. Baskerville, who could not get going, and was well taken in the outfield by Holmes. J. Pace followed next, and made two dangerous cuts, each past slip for two. Without further loss 40 was hoisted. Anthony missed a bid from a miss-hit, and 50 was telegraphed. The innings closed by 55, and Hulme carried out his bat for a well-played 12. G. Meakin bowled well, and captured six wickets for 19 runs. Against this rather small total Stone commenced operations with G. Meakin and A. F. Fernie to the attack of Spencer and J. Pace. With two runs registered Fernie played on to Spencer. H. E. P. Harris joined Meakin, and the latter hit the first boundary of the match off the slow bowler. Spencer managed to beat G. Meakin with a beautiful ball for five runs later. B. Meakin filled the vacancy, and made one or two nice strokes off both bowlers.

LEEK HIGHFIELD.

J Wilkinson b Anthony	3
K Hulme c K Meakin b Anthony	6
A H Beech b G Meakin	1
A Hulme not out	12
F W Beech c Dutton b G Meakin	1
Spencer (A.) b G Meakin	5
H Buxton c G Harris b G Meakin	0
V Astbury lbw b G Meakin	0
A Baskerville c Holmes b G Meakin	4
J Pace b Anthony	5
A L Kidd c Blakenan b Anthony	6
Extras	5
Total	55

STONE.

G Meakin b Spencer	5
G F Fernie b Spencer	2
N E P Harris lbw b Kidd	3

B. Meakin c Wilkinson b Spencer ... 14
Anthony not out ... 0
H Holmes not out ... 5
Extras ... 1
Total (for four wickets) ... 30

BOWLING ANALYSIS.
Leek Highfield Innings.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Anthony	12.5	2	30	4
G Meakin	12	5	19	6

Anthony bowled five no-balls.

PORRHILL v. STOKE.

BARNES IN SCORING FORM.

Although the "gate" at Porhill was fair, the crowd was not of such dimensions as the home team's engagement with Stoke might have been expected to attract. Delightful weather and a capital wicket, with both teams representative—all promised well for an interesting afternoon's cricket. Porhill had choice of innings, and the captain and the professional opened the innings against the attack of E. J. Johnson and Butler. Much to the dismay of the Porhill supporters, "Captain" Wood had only cracked his duck when he was lbw to Butler. Only two singles had been secured for the wicket. H. T. Mars, who was taking the place of P. Knight, succeeded H. F. Wood, and Butler sent him back with his next delivery.

The next batsman, R. Maudsley, stayed for a couple of overs, and was dismissed by E. J. Johnson with the score standing at 15. J. S. Heath fell a victim to Butler's deadly bowling in the following over, when seven runs had been added, Heath contributing a single. Four wickets had fallen at a cost of 24 runs. Butler took Poole's wicket in his next over (five for 32) and in his next turn Greatorex was leg before with the score at six for 39. Then a different complexion was put on the game, S. H. Wood making a splendid stand while Sid Barnes put the field into a state of perpetual motion. Before the partners were separated, 59 runs had been scored, bringing the total up to 97. Whilst S. H. Wood sent the ball to the rails twice in compiling his score of 20, Barnes hit hard and often, getting 13 fours, one five (a boundary and overthrow) and three twos during his stay of under an hour and a half. In just over an hour from the start the hundred was telegraphed. A. G. Jones relieved Johnson at 55 and at 7 Taylor went on for Butler. E. C. Johnson then displaced Taylor, and caught a straight return by Wood. Bickerton soon got set, but at 131 E. J. Johnson beat Barnes with a fine ball. Bickerton and Eardley added substantially to the score, but in just under two hours the innings ended for 192.

P. Briggs and W. D. Kirkby started for Stoke. Briggs gained a boundary off Barnes and accorded the same treatment to one of H. Eardley's balls. Kirkby scored four singles before Barnes found his ball in his fourth over, the first wicket falling for 15. Briggs run in some lusty strokes, and placed Barnes to the boundary twice in one over. Maudsley smartly caught F. C. Johnson when the score stood at 26, the time occupied being half an hour.

PORRHILL.

H F Wood lbw b Butler	1
Barnes (S F.) b E J Johnson	90
H T Mars b Butler	0
R Maudsley b E J Johnson	5
J S Heath b Butler	1
J Poole b Butler	1
W G Greatorex lbw b Butler	0
S H Wood c and b Johnson	20
C Bickerton c and b Butler	18
H Eardley c Kirkby b Butler	14
G Shorter not out	8
Extras	4
Total	192

STOKE.

P Briggs not out	20
W D Kirkby b Barnes	4
F C Johnson c Maudsley b Eardley	5
E J Johnson b Barnes	1
F M Gress not out	0
Total (for 3 wickets)	30

Porhill Innings.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
E J Johnson	15	3	43	2
Butler (J.)	17.2	2	60	7
A G Jones	3	0	18	0
H E Taylor	5	0	28	0
F C Johnson	4	2	9	1

LONGTON v. LEEK.

BROWN AND STEVENSON BOWL WELL.

The Leek team were at Longton this afternoon. The visitors' captain having named the coin. Leek took first knock, H. E. Ellerton and Sedgwick facing the attack of Brown (W.) and P. Thorley. Runs came quickly, 20 appearing for ten minutes' play, and at this total Sedgwick was sent back. P. Stevenson then displaced Thorley in the attack, and the change was immediately successful. Control in playing forward was bowled. Brown was almost unplayable, sending down four maiden overs in succession, and at 23 he found Fenton's middle stump. Ellerton was smartly caught with the score unaltered. Half the side were out for 32, Stevenson claiming his third victim in Knight. The "rot" continued, Brown bowling Walker with a beauty at 41. Mr. Brunt, although at the wicket eight minutes, failed to get a run, and left seventh man at 43. With still one required for the half-century, Pointon was taken in the slips. Stevenson at this period had obtained five wickets for 17 runs. Bryne was taken on the boundary at 50, and with the score unaltered, Mellor was smartly caught. The groundwork of the home side was extremely good, the fielders being repeatedly applauded for clever stoppages.

Longton were first represented at the wicket by A. Bradbury and Brown (W.), the attack being taken up by Sedgwick and J. Pointon. Bradbury obtained four off the pros. first over but on Brown facing Pointon he was bowled

first ball A. Kent filled the breach, but after batting carefully for 25 minutes left to a brilliant catch. The Rev. L. G. Brown was third man out, at 28, a yorker from Sedgwick knocking the leg stump out of the ground. P. Thorley then became associated with Bradbury, and the score was taken to 43 when the latter was dismissed by a "shooter" from Sedgwick. With a couple still required for victory P. Thorley gave an easy catch to Sedgwick, which was accepted. W. T. Kent made the winning hit.

LEEK.

H Ellerton c Ellams b Stevenson	16
Sedgwick (H) b Brown	6
W Cantrill b Stevenson	2
G Fernon b Brown	3
J Pointon c Brown (W) b Stevenson	15
A Knight b Stevenson	1
F Walker b Brown	0
H R Brunt b Stevenson	3
H Mellor c O'Brien b Brown	0
W Byrne c W Kent b Brown	2
H Birch not out	0
Extras	2
Total	50

LONGTON.

A Bradbury b Sedgwick	32
Brown (W) b Pointon	0
A Kent c Mellor b Pointon	3
Rev L G Brown b Sedgwick	2
P Thorley c Sedgwick b Pointon	10
C Edwards b Sedgwick	0
C J Morgan b Pointon	0
W T Kent not out	1
T O'Brien not out	0
Extras	2
Total (7 wks)	55

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

Leek Innings.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Brown (W)	13.1	6	17	5
P Thorley	2	0	14	0
E Stevenson	11	4	17	5

DIVISION II.

BURSLEM II. v. FENTON II.
VISITORS EASILY VICTORIOUS.

Burslem won the toss, and commenced to the bowling of Leadley and White. At 26 Hill relieved Leadley, and Hart, after showing good promise, was beaten by a fine delivery from W. Hill. Mountford, when he was splintered off by Gill. E. Cotton, sen., at 37 played a ball timely to point, and had to retire. Wood and E. Cotton, jun., also retired through misjudging runs. At 53 Belcher played on to Taylor. Rowe was missed by Wallace before scoring. Garner played steady cricket at first, but afterwards opened his shoulders and made the highest score. Leadley resumed at 70, and with his second ball completely beat Rowe. Garner left at 72. The innings closed at 72. Leadley on going on again took two wickets for one run.

Rowe and Hart commenced the attack, and at nine, Wallace was caught by Rowe in the slips. At 32, Moss, with a well-compiled score of eleven, was well taken by Capper off Belcher. Dyke laid the foundation stone of success, and rapidly scored all round the wicket, and the Burslem total was passed with three wickets down.

BURSLEM II.

I Hart b W Hill	14
J Mountford c Wallace b W Hill	13
E Cotton (sen) c R Hill b W Hill	10
G Wood run out	6
E Cotton (jun) run out	1
A Garner b Taylor	15
D Belcher b Taylor	5
A Rowe b Leadley	4
H Williamson b Leadley	1
A Capper not out	0
Rev W C Unwin run out	0
Extras	3
Total	72

FENTON II.

B Wallace c Rowe b Hart	3
A Mellor c Williamson b Cotton	24
G Moss c Capper b Belcher	11
J Dyke not out	34
W S White not out	4
Extras	7
Total (for 3 wickets)	83

OLDFIELDS v. KNYPERSLEY.

AN INTERESTING MATCH.

A more than ordinary amount of interest centred round this match, inasmuch as both elevens stand a chance of gaining the championship honours. Knypersley, with the spin of the coin in their favour, went in first. H. E. Bourne and E. Tunstall facing the bowling of Warmington and Heasman. The partnership resulted in 36 being compiled within half an hour, when Bourne was dismissed by Warmington. J. J. Awty did not stay long for his couple. At 43, Tunstall played into Johnson's hands. J. Whiston added two more, but Goodall left without scoring.

KNYPERSLEY.

H E Bourne b Warmington	14
E Tunstall c Johnson b Heasman	22
J J Awty b Heasman	2
J Whiston run out	2
F H Goodall st Naylor b Heasman	0
H Simpson c Nichols b Sandham	20
E Awty c Fletcher b Redden	13
E Bedson c Heasman b Redden	4
H S Harding c Fletcher b Redden	7
T Clewlow b Redden	0
G Bedson not out	0
Extras	14
Total	93

OLDFIELDS.

H Redden lbw b Goodall	3
L Murray b Bedson	0
J W Johnson not out	13
C A Nichols not out	2
Extras	1
Total (for 2 wks)	19

STOKE II. v. PORTHILL II.

Glorious weather prevailed at Stoke this afternoon when Porthill's second eleven paid their return fixture. A. P. Wood and P. Lowndes were the first pair to bat for the visitors. At 15, Bladen defeated Wood, when he had all the runs to his credit. P. E. Wood only contributed three, and Smith was foolishly run out at 22. Lowndes' useful innings came to a close at 44, his 17 being compiled in fine style. At 51 Bladen made a difficult running catch off Taylor's bat. The sixth wicket fell at 67, Bailey being lbw to Cooper. Sudlow played well for his 15, but succumbed to Bladen at 82. Lloyd had a short stay, but when Barratt joined Thorley another substantial increase was made, for they carried the score from 89 to 110, before the last comer was displaced by Setton. The last wicket fell without any addition.

On Stoke going to the wickets they failed rather miserably against the bowling of Taylor and Lloyd, and Gallimore (16) was the only player to get into double figures. Taylor took five wickets for 10, and Lloyd five for 21.

PORTHILL II.

A P Wood b Bladen	15
P N Lowndes b Cooper	17
P E Wood b Bladen	3
W J Smith run out	2
R Sudlow b Bladen	15
F Taylor c Bladen b Cooper	4
E Bailey lbw b Cooper	8
F Thorley not out	23
B Lloyd lbw b Cooper	5
D W Barrett b Setton	11
J Brough b Setton	0
Extras	9
Total	110

STOKE II.

H Boullenger b Taylor	3
G White c P E Wood b Lloyd	2
H Septon st Bailey b Lloyd	0
H R Davies b Lloyd c Lowndes	0
F W Gallimore b Taylor	18
S Small b Lloyd	2
A Cooper b Taylor	0
A Bladen c P E Wood b Taylor	0
L Baker b Taylor	0
W Pointon not out	6
R S Watt b Lloyd	0
Extras	2
Total	35

TUNSTALL II. v. NORTON II.

SMART BOWLING BY NORTON.

Only a few spectators witnessed this match at Tunstall. Blackwell and Winkle opened for the home team, but the former retired with only two on the board. Board stayed with Winkle while the score was taken to 31, but a one-handed catch at slip caused his retirement. Matters then went badly, two more wickets falling for the addition of seven runs. Winkle kept his wicket up well until a remarkable catch at point resulted in his dismissal. The bowlers continued to hold the upper hand, wickets falling quickly. The innings closed for 55. Worthy had five wickets for 13, and Winkle three for seven.

Norton started quite as badly as the home team, but eventually they placed themselves in front with two wickets in hand, the innings finally closing for 60.

TUNSTALL II.

H Winkle c Worthy b Winkle	13
W Blackwell b Stonehewer b Winkle	16
A Broad c Stonehewer b Winkle	6
S Lockett c Skellern b Worthy	0
J Johnstone st Goodwin b Worthy	0
S Lindop b Worthy	5
J Birtles b Worthy	0
A Holdcroft b Winkle	0
N Downs c Skellern b Worthy	0
E Eadley run out	0
H Hassall not out	5
Extras	4
Total	55

NORTON II.

S Worthy b Lockett	4
H Marton lbw b Eadley	0
J Stonehewer b Lockett	0
T Lowe lbw b Johnson	14
J Skellam b Eadley	1
H H Rose b Lockett	10
G Duncalf b Lockett	0
L Evans c Hassall b Johnson	0
L Rushton b Lockett	15
T Winkle b Johnson	5
J Goodwin not out	0
Extras	6
Total	60

CREWE ALEX. II. v. SILVERDALE II.

CREWE II.

T Dutton c Ankers b Lowe	2
P Fox run out	13
F Cross c Cadman b Rushton	32
H Hughes b Morris	21
F Bennett run out	16
G Haves b Morris	4
F Duckley c and b Rushton	13
C Mason c Cadman b Rushton	0
H Edwards b Rushton	0
J Clarke not out	3
J Powell b Rushton	0
Extras	7
Total	111

SILVERDALE II.

F H Cork st Haves b Duckley	14
G Ankers b Duckley	1
E Lawe b Duckley	9
J Rushton not out	2
D Bowns not out	0
Extras	4
Total (for 3 wks)	30

CHELL v. LONGTON II.

Played at Chell. Scores:—

CHELL.

W Tipping c Hulse b Bradbury	37
S Leese c Kent b Bradbury	4
J Dodd c Kent b Bloor	15
G Lawton retired	13
E Barber b Kent	2
W Bantley c Harrison b Kent	4
F Bantley b Kent	55
R Sherratt run out	2
J Clews not out	1
J Fernyhoough b Bloor	4
Extras	4
Total (for nine wks)	123

N.S. & DISTRICT COMBINATION.

DIVISION II.

AUDLEY II. v. SANDYFORD II.

Played at Audley. Scores:—

AUDLEY.

J Holmes b Phillips	0
G Baker b Blackshire	4
G Austin c Carter b Phillips	17
R Bollington b Phillips	1
J Plant b Phillips	12
A Bourne not out	2
J Dean c Darlington b Heath	0
R Proudman not out	3
Extras	1
Total (for six wks)	40

UTTOXETER, BLYTHE BRIDGE & DISTRICT LEAGUE.

CHEADLE v. TEAN II.

Played at Cheadle. Scores:—

TEAN.

G H Brown c Critchlow b W Whitehurst	1
S Faulkner b W Whitehurst	6
B Sanders b S Whitehurst	1
F Arnold b W Whitehurst	12
W Sanders b W Whitehurst	2
J Yates c S Whitehurst	5
J Cook c and b S Whitehurst	2
A E Robinson b W Whitehurst	4
J Cook b W Whitehurst	1
W Capewell not out	0
G Hawley b W Whitehurst	0
Extras	5
Total	42

CHEADLE II. v. TEAN II.

Played at Cheadle. Scores:—

CHEADLE.

W Whitehurst b Sanders	3
J W Steele c Faulkner b Brown	3
S Whitehurst b Sanders	3
J Lowndes b Brown	0
J Brunt b Sanders	5
W Salt b Sanders	12
E Pepper not out	4
T Finney run out	0
J Critchlow c Robinson b Sanders	0
A Whitehurst c Robinson b Brown	0
J W Keates c and b Sanders	0
Extras	8
Total	45

STOKE-ON-TRENT FEDERATION.

EASTWOOD v. FLORENCE.

Played at Eastwood. Scores:—

EASTWOOD.

E Hallam not out	11
A Peake c Latham b Houseman	1
A Smith b Houseman	2
J Swettenham b Houseman	2
T Naylor b Travers	35
S Aleck b Travers	5
E Rowlinson c Beardmore b Travers	0
H Walls b Travers	2
H Naylor b Houseman	2
G Ellis b Houseman	0
A Chell b Houseman	0
Extras	6
Total	64

MACCLESFIELD v. MANCHESTER CLIFFORD.

These teams met at Macclesfield. Winning the toss, the visitors out, Macclesfield in to bat, and the home team went to pieces in a disastrous fashion. Clapham and Henshaw shared the bowling, and they at one embarrassed the batsmen. Comberbach was dismissed for one run, and the professional, Rhodes, was stumped by Newall for three. E. V. Hall was the highest scorer, making 20. E. Clapham, the clever slow break bowler, was in splendid form, and did the hat-trick, with the wickets of Harrison, Compton, and Hewett. His average was six for 16 runs. The score was the lowest made by Macclesfield this season.

MACCLESFIELD.

H Comberbach c Barlow b Clapham	1
R Corbisley c Newall b Clapham	4
Rhodes st Newall b Henshaw	3
F V Hall run out	20
A Brett b Henshaw	0
J Harrison b Clapham	2
W Compton b Clapham	0
J C Close-Brooks b Clapham	1
J Downes b Henshaw	0
R Howarth not out	1
S Hewett b Clapham	0
Extras	6
Total	44

CHURNET VALLEY LEAGUE.

DENSTONE v. OAKMOOR
 Played at Denstone. Scores:—

DENSTONE.

A J Wood not out	13
A Hazel b Smith	1
T J A Salmon b Collier	3
J Tortoiseshell lbw b Collier	1
H B Roden c Alcock b Smith	3
E Tortoiseshell c Bolton b Collier	1
J W Woodward b Smith	0
E Wood st Alcock b Smith	1
A F Abberley c Walker b Collier	2
W Warner c and b Collier	1
R Wood b Collier	0
Extras	4
Total	30

OAKMOOR.

J R Goodwin b A J Wood	13
J Alcock b A J Wood	13
G Swinson lbw b J Tortoiseshell	4
S Walker run out	24
T Smith b J Tortoiseshell	0
M A Bolton b Hazel	3
F Walker not out	3
H F Rabona b Hazel	1
Extras	6
Total (for seven wks)	67

Oakmoor, 67 all out.

STALLINGTON v. LEEK HIGHFIELD II.
 Played at Stallington. Scores:—

STALLINGTON.

A Albotts b Birchenough	9
A Collier b Walmesley	1
Rev H B Wright not out	19
H Jones b Walmesley	0
C Greatrex b Birchenough	14
A Cox not out	0
Extras	5
Total (for 4 wickets)	47

LEEK II v. UTTOXETER.
 Played at Leek. Scores:—

LEEK II.

P Bradley run out	13
T Saunders lbw b Simpson	8
S W Bailey c Davis b Cockersole	9
G Bostock c G Smith b Cox	0
J Sheldon c W Simpson b Cockersole	37
A Bratt c and b Ball	50
W Poyser c and b Cockersole	6
C Malkin not out	4
Extras	17
Total (for seven wks)	144

UTTOXETER.

E S Rowley lbw b Sheldon	6
F Smith not out	3
V Dains not out	0
Extras	1
Total (for 1 wkt)	10

TEAN v. CHEADLE.
 Played at Tean. Scores:—

TEAN.

E Johnson b Crooks	63
F Wilson b Tipper	11
S Johnson lbw b Crook	10
J Reeves b Gregory	21
J Thompson c Loundes b Crook	10
H Yates not out	12
E Rowe not out	0
Extras	7
Total (for five wks)	134

Innings declared.

HOLMES CHAPEL II v. CONGLETON II.
 Played at Holmes Chapel. Scores:—

HOLMES CHAPEL II.

H Bateman b Lee	3
F A Cotton b Lee	0
H Massey b Rev Wildblood	7
A Fraser lbw b Lee	2
F Bolshaw not out	1
Extras	1
Total (for 4 wks)	14

CONGLETON ASYLUM v. SANDYFORD.
 Played at Cheddleton. Scores:—

Sandyford—G Bourne c Matthews b Ridsdale 15, J Beech b Ridsdale 1, A Staton c Sutcliffe b Ridsdale 24, M Cotton c Ellerton b Newstead 7, L Dean c Baker b Ridsdale 13, B Baker c Ridsdale b Newstead 14, W Horrocks c Ellerton b Hare 3, J Reeves b Newstead 0, A Block b Sutcliffe 7, G Baker b Newstead 0, G Holmes not out 4, extras 11, total 107.

WHEELSHOP v. CREWE CHRIST CHURCH.
 Played on the Alexandra ground this morning, for the benefit of the widow of the late Mr. Alfred Wright. Scores:—

Wheelshop—S Pannett c Lyons b James 48, R Bates c Stevenson b Lyons 12, T Owen b James 4, J Evans c and b Lyons 37, E Whitehead c and b Lyons 7, J Rainbow b Ferns 1, A Cope lbw b James 5, J Doyer not out 12, F Green not out 12, extras 20; total (for seven) 127. Innings declared.

Christ Church—Rev. A. Martin retired 17, J Lyon b J Evans 64, Rev. D K James c Whitehead b Cope 4, A Bouncey b A Cope 7, C Bradshaw b J Evans 0, F Jenner c Doyer b A Cope 2, V Bennett c Rainbow b A Cope 1, H Price b A Cope 2, G Nicholls c Green b A Cope 0, F Frestney b J Evans 0, F Stenson not out 2, extras 2; total 83.

A. Cope took six wickets for seven runs.

MANCHESTER CLIFFORD II v. MACCLESFIELD.
 Manchester Clifford, 112 for 5 wickets.

CONGLETON v. HOLMES CHAPEL.

Played at Congleton. Scores:—

CONGLETON.

A E Braby b Blakeman	3
J Moffatt b Blakeman	5
Rev E B Wildblood b Cotton	64
L M Penn c Howarth b Blakeman	16
F W Norris b Vaudrey	1
F J Foster b Cotton	42
R H Lowe b Cotton	3
G H Burgess c Holland b Vaudrey	0
D Holland c Vaudrey b Cotton	0
W Norris b Cotton	1
F Lees not out	6
Extras	8
Total	149

STONE II v. TRENTHAM PARK.
 Played at Stone. Scores:—

TRENTHAM PARK.

D Alexander c B Harris b T Harris	3
S Proctor b Tomlinson	0
W Beutne b Tomlinson	3
E Hammond c Tomlinson b T Harris	1
P Hammond b Tomlinson	0
F Stevens b Tomlinson	5
F Salt lbw b T W Harris	0
A Collinson not out	12
A Gould b T W Harris	12
C Beardmore b Tomlinson	4
T Blair run out	4
Extras	4
Total	68

BARLASTON v. TRENT VALE.
 Played at Barlaston. Scores:—

TRENT VALE.

P Garton lbw b Paddock	3
J Evans b Paddock	0
W Tomlinson b Brown	9
A Garton c Greatrex b Paddock	5
G Dix b Paddock	8
Pickthall c Paddock b Challacomb	1
G Tunstall b Paddock	2
W Snape b Paddock	4
Wag b Paddock	2
Ferneyhourb not out	0
Sneyd c and b Greatrex	3
Extras	0
Total	40

SANDON v. STAFFORD II.
 Played at Sandon. Scores:—

STAFFORD.

W Sheldon c Norman b Carr	12
F J Dyke b Norman	3
H Dutton b Norman	3
C L Packer c Farr b Norman	9
A J Ward c Askey b Wright	13
G Thorne b Wright	2
F E Lloyd b Norman	1
T Crawford b Wright	3
A Brinson not out	9
T M Maylott b Norman	2
F Tomlinson run out	2
Extras	6
Total	65

BARRATT'S TILE WORKS v. HENRY RICHARDS.
 Played on Barratts ground. Scores:—

HENRY RICHARDS CO.

G Barrow b Hood	14
G Lewis hit wkt b Emery	2
W Broad c Sawyer b Emery	0
B Hammond b Emery	6
W Robinson b Emery	25
H Egginton c Sawyer b Emery	6
A Huntbach c Hood b Emery	6
H Robinson c Hood b Harvey	8
T Griffiths run out	6
F Price not out	2
C Shaw b Emery	0
Extras	4
Total	79

STONE WORKINGMEN v. BOOTH'S, LTD.
 Played at Stone. Scores:—

Booths Ltd.—Allman b Bailey 1, Sumnall b Chaplin 1, Hewitt b Bailey 11, Fenton b Chaplin 7, Barker b Bailey 0, Mansfield b Myatt 4, Lumsdale lbw b Swift 16, Parr b Myatt 0, Machin b Swift 0, Allman not out 0, Phillips b Myatt 0; extras, 4; total, 44.